

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Munitions Storage Bunker (Bldg. 103)  
Naval Ammunition Depot  
North of Campbell Trail near Jackson Park Family Housing Area  
Bremerton  
Kitsap County  
Washington

HABS  
WACB  
18-12-REM,  
8B-

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

**WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA**

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY  
PUGET SOUND NAVAL SHIPYARD  
NAVAL AMMUNITION DEPOT, BREMERTON  
MUNITIONS STORAGE BUNKER (Building 103)

HABS No.WA-203-B

**Location:** Puget Sound Naval Shipyard / Naval  
Ammunition Depot, Bremerton  
Jackson Park Family Housing Area  
Nr. Bremerton, Washington  
Kitsap County

U.S.G.S. Bremerton West, Wash.  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates  
10 52294 527026

**Significance:** Building 103 is considered significant for its association with Naval history in the Puget Sound region, with ship-building and repair in Washington State and with the World War II in the Pacific; themes that are significant in the history of the Puget Sound region, Washington State and the nation as a whole. This building is illustrative of the necessary process of off-loading munitions from warships prior to entering Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, a National Historic Landmark, as well as the re-supply process after work was completed at the shipyard. This building is an intact and relatively unaltered example of a facility specifically designed for the storage of hazardous and explosive materials dating from the second quarter of the twentieth century.

**Description:** Building 103 is one of six munitions storage bunkers built according to a standard plan and located within the Naval Ammunition Depot(NAD), Bremerton. It is sited on a gentle slope and is a one story structure with a 52' x 103' rectangular plan exclusive of the wing walls at the primary east facing elevation (per HABS Photo WA-203-B-1-3). The superstructure is entirely reinforced concrete on a poured perimeter foundation. The north, west and south exterior elevations are earth mounded and the low-shed reinforced concrete roof structure is covered by a layer of earth approximately two feet in depth. The mounded earth is retained along the primary east elevation by a roof parapet and wing walls at each end. The parapet and wing walls are surmounted by a chain-link fence which may post date the original construction period. A concrete loading dock extends along the width of the east elevation. Two sets of out-swinging, double-leaf metal doors are located symmetrically

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on the east elevation. Each leaf is grounded to the metal frame with a metal mesh strap and contains a ventilation louver which may be operated with a smaller door. Additional ventilation is provided by two vertical openings within the western side of the roof. A horizontal band of eight plain, square-headed rectangular window openings has been boarded over on the east elevation and the adjacent railroad tracks have been removed. The interior surfaces are unfinished concrete and the interior space is divided, by two rows of square columns, into eighteen square bays measuring approximately 17' x 17' (per HABS Photo WA-203-B-4).

**Historical Context:** Building 103 was constructed according to standard Navy plans in 1942, as part of the facility initially known as Naval Ammunition Depot (NAD), Puget Sound, Wash. The depot was established in 1904 in order to service battleships associated with the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard at Bremerton, located approximately three miles southeast on Puget Sound.

Naval ammunition depots were designed to serve two basic functions: to store munitions materials and to produce ammunition. Production activities included the overhaul of existing ammunition, as well as loading projectiles, mines and bombs with explosives, packaging smokeless powder (used as a propellant), and assembling component parts into defused ammunition. These activities required a variety of storage facilities.

Prior to the outbreak of World War II, the depot included over 70 buildings and structures with facilities for storage and production, administrative offices and quarters for Naval and civilian personnel and a pier utilized in relation to rail transportation within the depot. Immediately following the outbreak of war, in late 1941, additional munitions related facilities were required. Thus, new construction was authorized for Indian Island (a depot had been established there in mid-1941) and Naval Ammunition Depot, Bremerton. A third depot was also created at nearby Bangor, Washington.

While many World War II buildings were erected as "temporary" construction, magazines were by necessity constructed of durable and non-temporary materials. Four standard magazine types were commonly built during this era and designed specifically for the storage of a variety of hazardous, explosive and/or flammable materials. Three of these magazine types utilized an earth mounded system, in lieu of a lightening mast, in order to provide protection from lightening and accidental ignition.

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Buildings 98-101 and Buildings 103 & 104 were all built in 1942, according to an earth mounded system which utilized vertical walls and a low-shed roof form. By 1944, there were approximately 125 buildings at NAD, Bremerton. According to historic maps, Building 103 was used as a powder magazine in 1946, 1947 and 1951. Development of the depot continued through the duration of the Korean War.

In August 1959, the entire facility was declared excess property and residential and commercial development began to occur in the surrounding area. In 1965, one hundred naval housing units were constructed in the immediate vicinity of the subject building and the former ammunition depot was named Jackson Park in honor of U.S. Senator Henry M. "Scoop" Jackson. Additional housing facilities were built in 1968, 1970 and 1975. Several of the other magazines, constructed according to the standard plan used for Building 103, have been adapted to uses considered compatible with the adjacent family housing and continue to be maintained and used by the Navy.

**Sources:**

Historic Property Inventory Form, OAHP, Olympia, WA. October 1992.

Kelly, Michael S. and Powers, David W., Jackson Park Cultural Resources Survey (Report), Dames & Moore, Chico, CA. 1993.

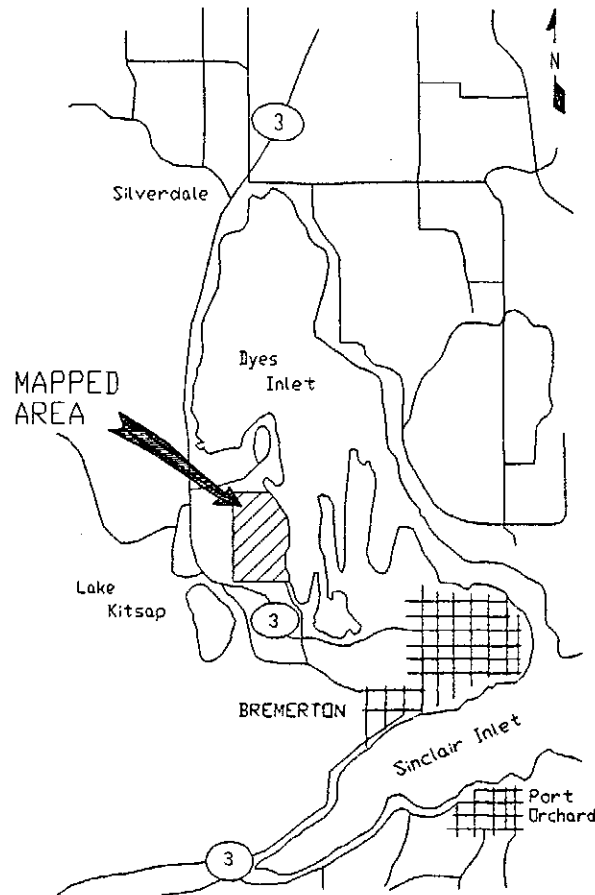
Miscellaneous depot site plans and architectural drawings. Held by Public Works, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, WA.

**Project Information:** The Department of the Navy (Navy) is planning to demolish Building 103 and Building 104 in order to construct additional family housing units at Jackson Park, Bremerton, Washington. It has been determined in consultation with the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) that such a project, if or when undertaken, will have an effect and that the subject properties are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Based on consultation with the Washington State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was entered into by the interested parties on July 8, 1993. The Agreement stipulated that prior to the demolition

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of Buildings 103 and 104, the Navy contact HABS/HAER at the Western Regional Office of the National Park Service, San Francisco, California, to determine the appropriate level and kind of recordation for the subject properties. The MOA further stipulated that copies of the documentation be made available to the SHPO and appropriate local archives designated by the SHPO. This recordation has been prepared in order to meet those stipulations.

Text prepared by: Katheryn H. Krafft  
Title: Cultural Resource Specialist  
Affiliation: Krafft & Krafft, Seattle, WA.  
Photography prepared by: John Stamets, Seattle, WA.  
Project supervised by: Florence K. Lentz,  
Affiliation: Cultural Resource Consulting, Ellensburg, WA.  
Date: August 1994



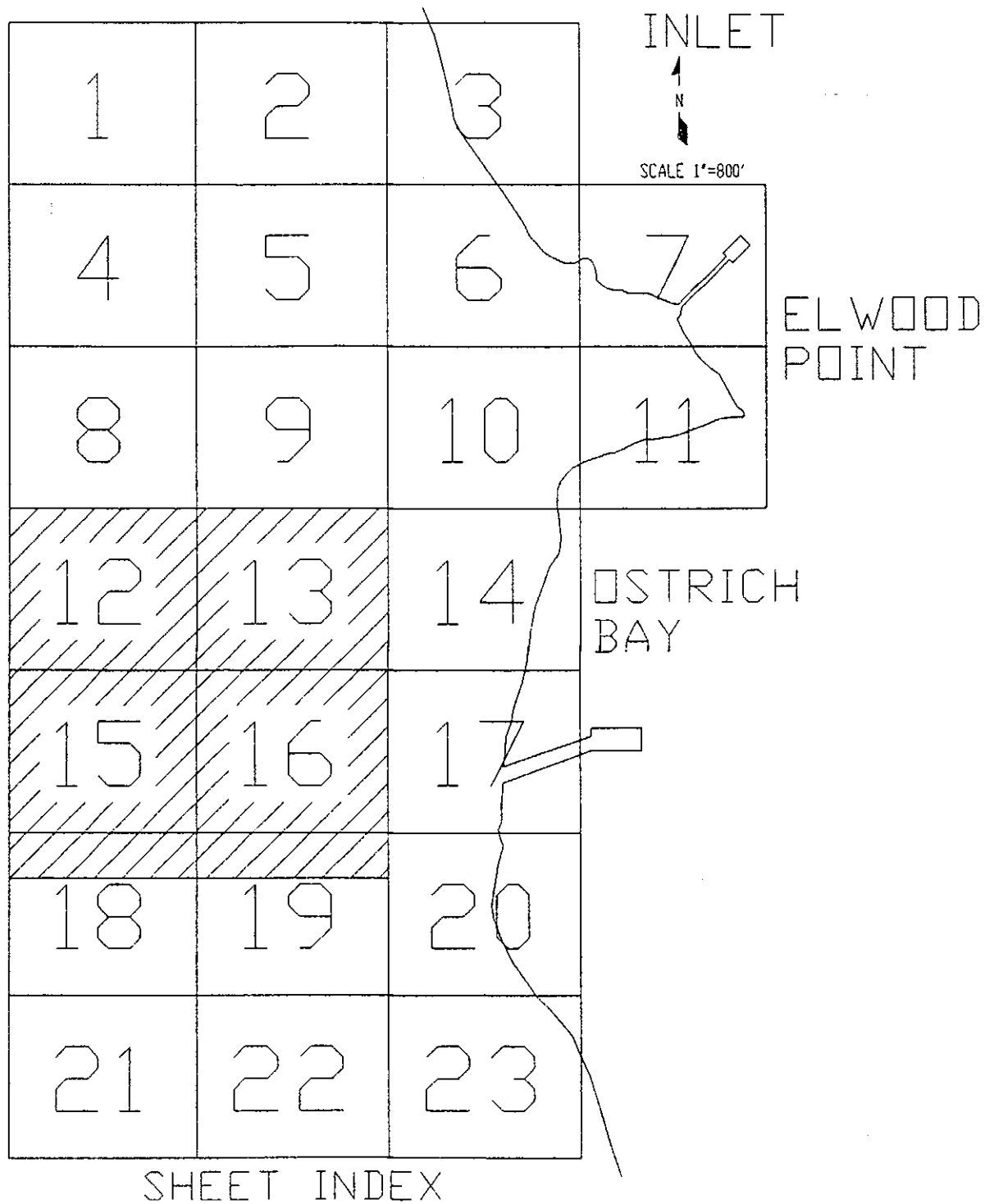
JACKSON PARK  
VICINITY MAP

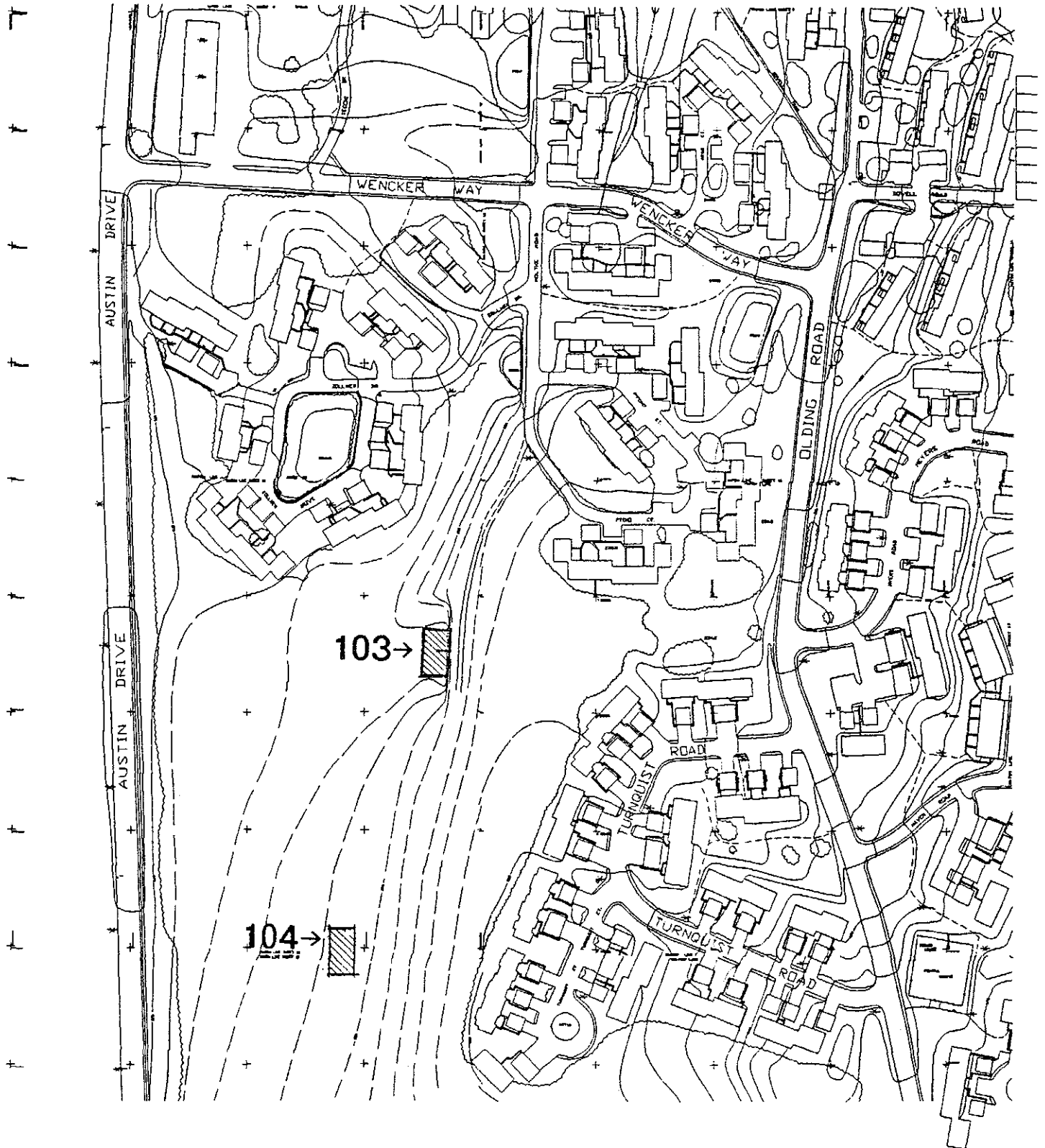
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NORTH

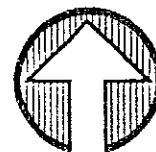
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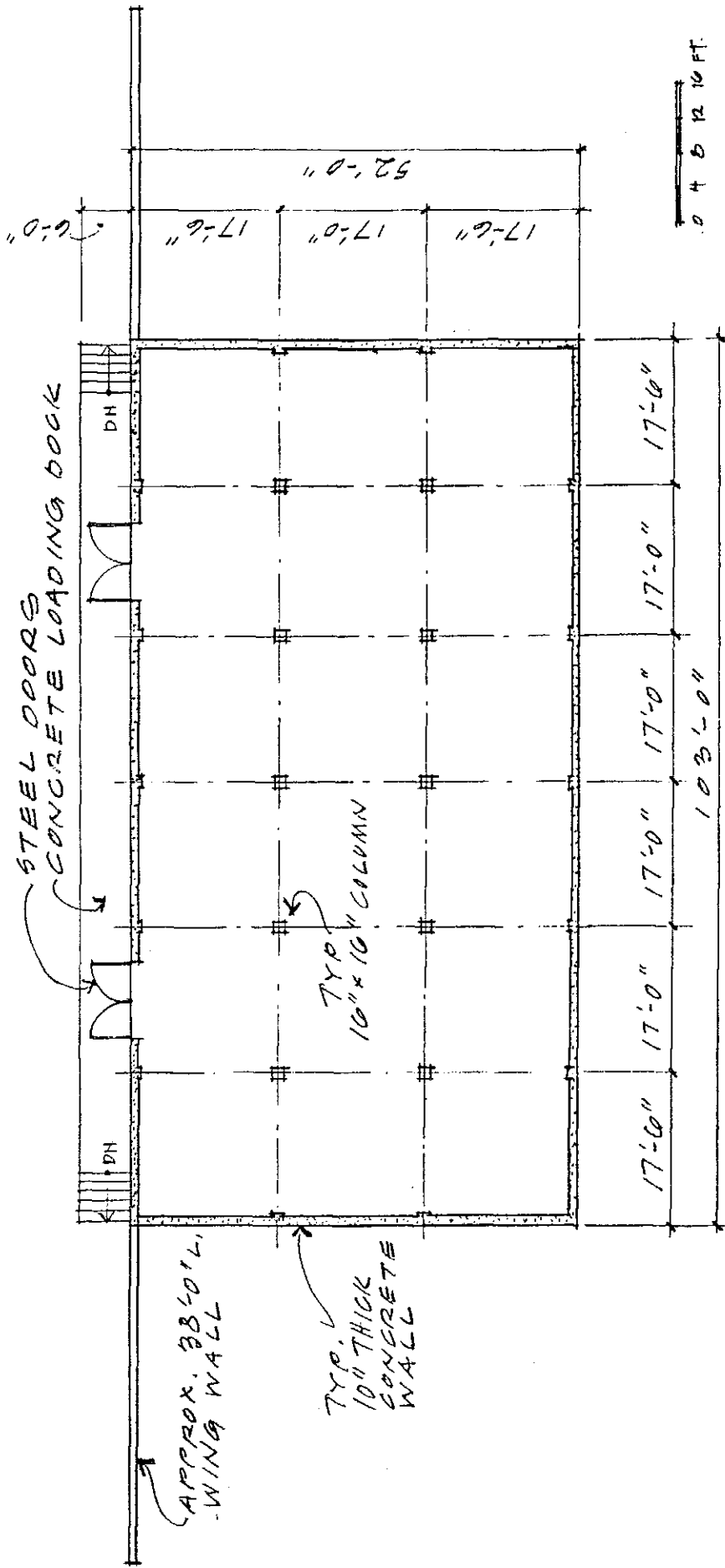
# JACKSON PARK PARTIAL SITE PLAN

SCALE: NONE



NORTH





TYPICAL FLOOR PLAN  
 BUILDING 103 & 104 NO SCALE